



APSINTHION

PROTOCOL



WRITTEN BY DR. FAUSTUS
ILLUSTRATED BY EROSARTS

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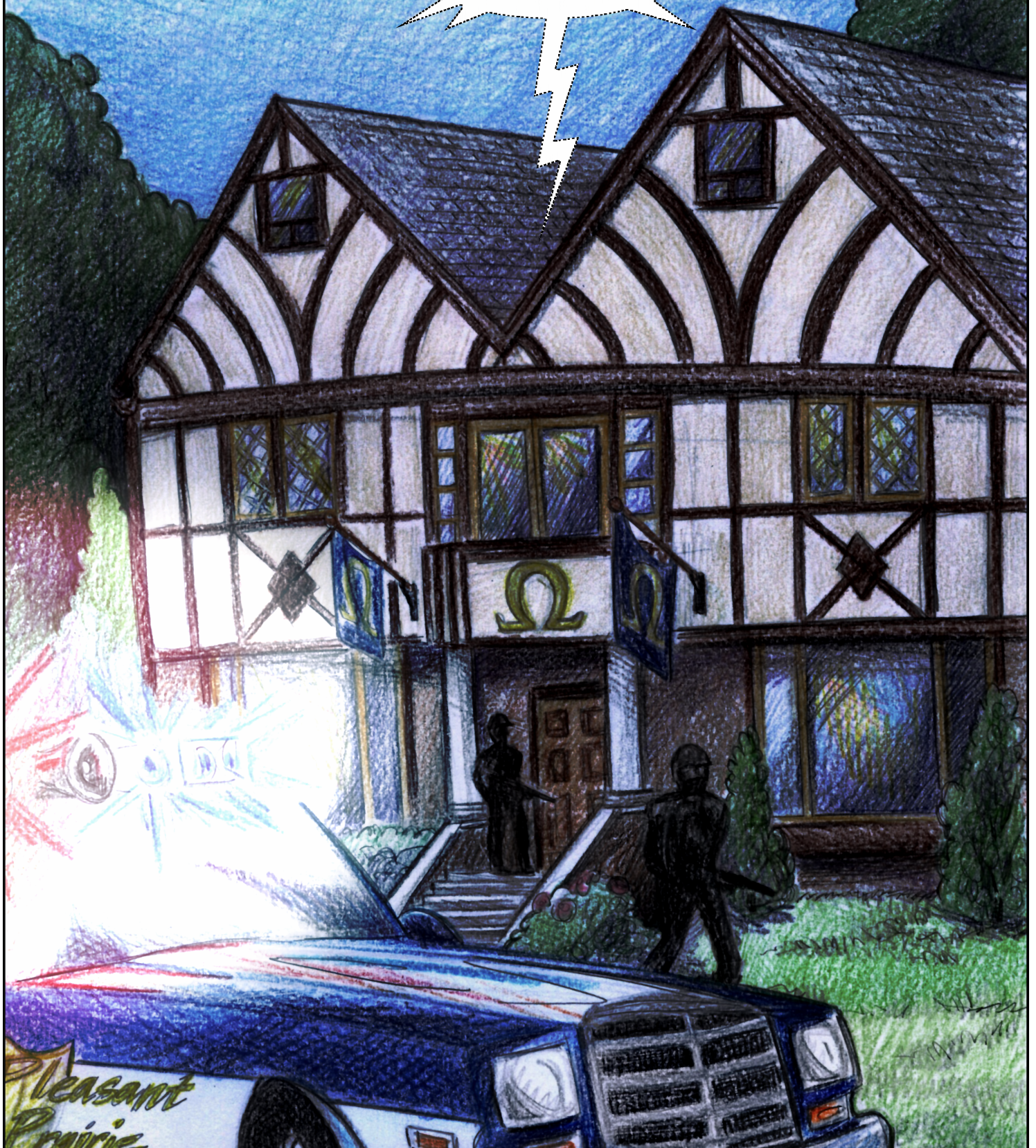




"APSINTHION PROTOCOL"
CHAPTER 6

WRITTEN BY: DR. FAUSTUS
ILLUSTRATED BY: EROSARTS

TELL THEM THAT THE
V.I.P. CAN COME IN.





APPALLING!
DISGUSTING!
HOW COULD
ANYONE
WALLOW IN
SUCH MORAL
FILTH AND
NOT *DIE* OF
SHAME?



IF YOU
HAD
ANY
SHAME.



DID YOU
FIND THE
BOY,
MACNEIL?

NO, SENATOR. I
ASSURE YOU WE ARE
FOLLOWING EVERY
POSSIBLE LEAD...

SEE THAT YOU DO. THIS IS
MY *DAUGHTER* WE'RE
TALKING ABOUT HERE.



TAKE EVERYONE
OUT, HOLD 'EM ON THE
DRUG CHARGE OVERNIGHT.
MAYBE SOMETHING
WILL SPILL.

YES, SIR.

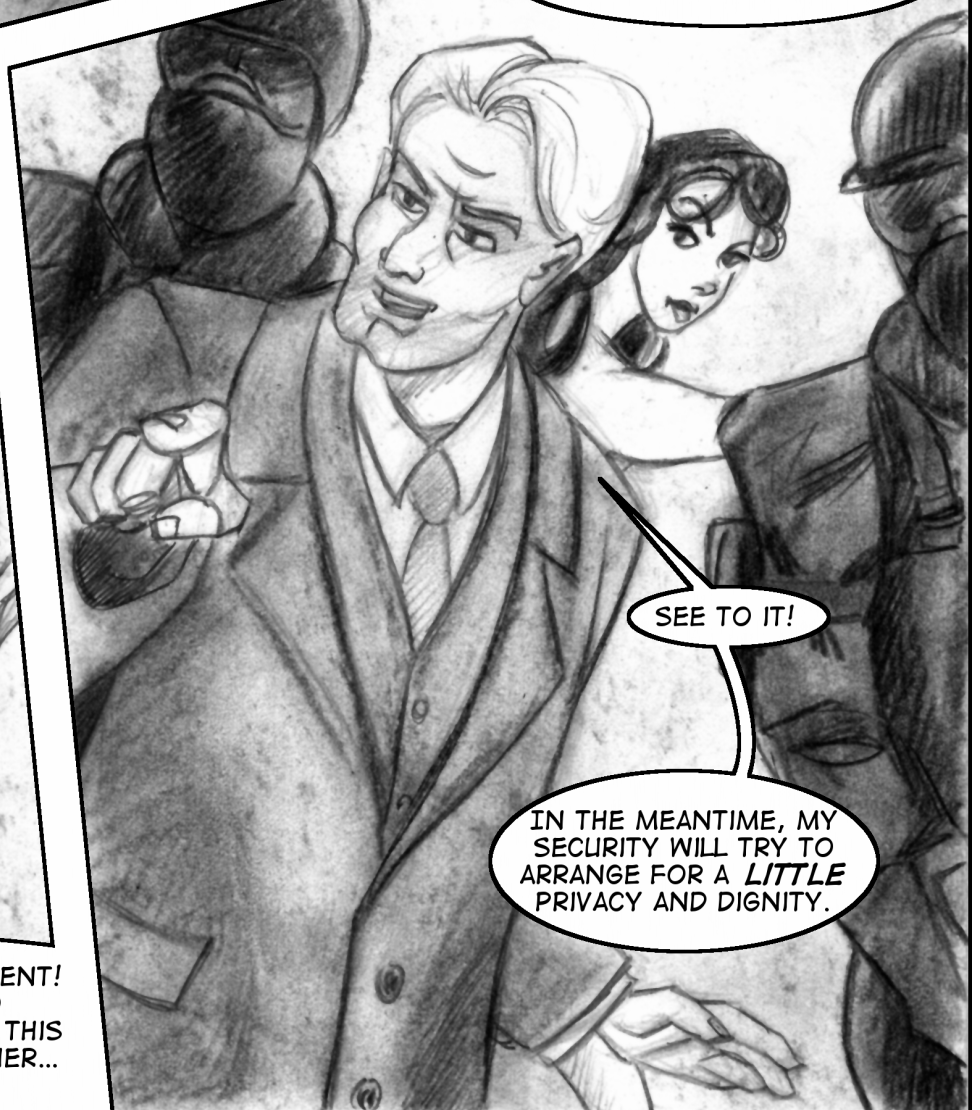
NOT THE
YOUNG
LADY!

I'M SORRY, SENATOR. I'LL
SEE WHAT I CAN ARRANGE.



EXCUSE ME,
SENATOR?

GOOD LORD, SPECIAL AGENT!
ARE YOU REALLY SO
INDECENT AS TO MARCH THIS
POOR GIRL OUTSIDE IN HER...
HER...CONDITION?



SEE TO IT!

IN THE MEANTIME, MY
SECURITY WILL TRY TO
ARRANGE FOR A *LITTLE*
PRIVACY AND DIGNITY.



GEE MISTER,
THANKS A LOT FOR...

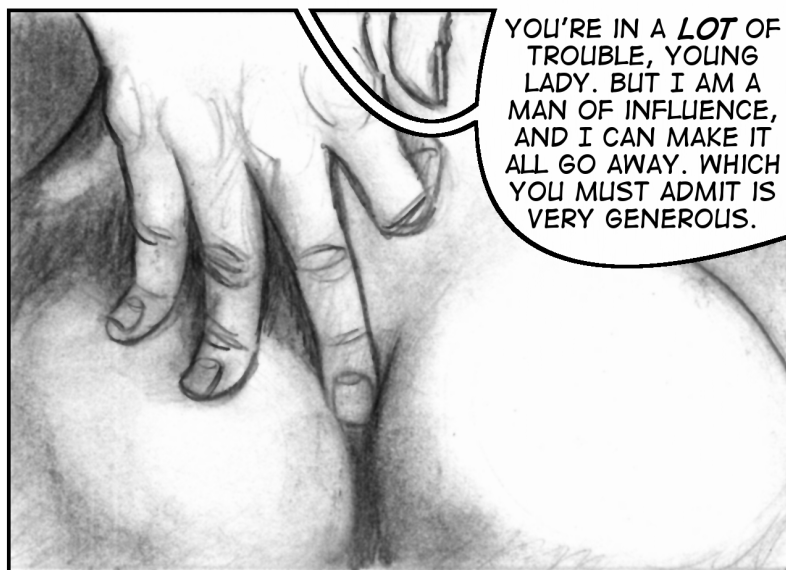
NO ONE TOLD
YOU YOU COULD
MOVE...OR SPEAK...



I RECOGNIZE YOU. YOU'RE ONE
OF THOSE LITTLE TARTS WHO LED
MY DAUGHTER ASTRAY IN THAT...
INCIDENT A FEW YEARS BACK.



NOW IT SEEMS
YOU'VE GOTTEN
YOURSELF IN
EVEN WORSE
TROUBLE.
DRUGS!
ORGIASTIC
RITES! A SORRY
EXAMPLE OF
MINDLESS
HEDONISM.



YOU'RE IN A *LOT* OF
TROUBLE, YOUNG
LADY. BUT I AM A
MAN OF INFLUENCE,
AND I CAN MAKE IT
ALL GO AWAY. WHICH
YOU MUST ADMIT IS
VERY GENEROUS.



AN EXCELLENT SUGGESTION,
SENATOR.



GNOSIS COUNTY
SHERIFFS FOUND THE IRONS
KID. DEAD. RURAL ROAD CAR
WRECK. PROBABLY DWI.
FORENSICS IS STILL GOING OVER
IT, BUT RIGHT NOW THERE'S NO
SIGN OF ANYTHING RELATED
TO THE MADDER GIRL.

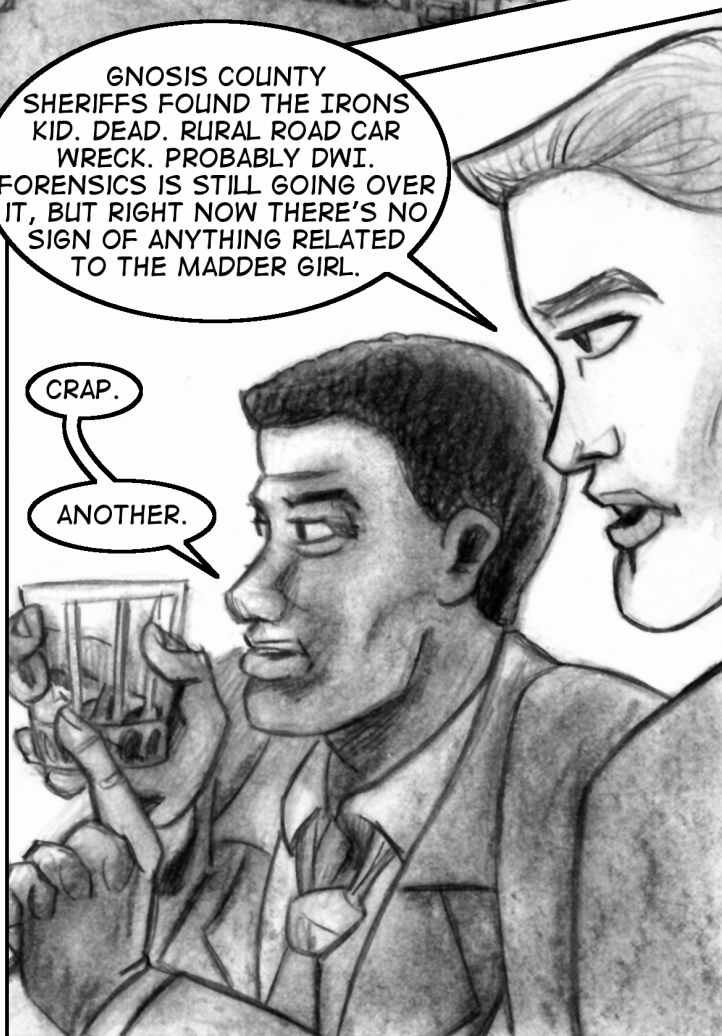
BLACK COFFEE.



PLEASE TELL
ME SOME
GOOD NEWS
FOR A CHANGE,
SPECIAL AGENT
SMITH.

CRAP.

ANOTHER.





AND SO WHERE NOW, SMITH?

THERE'S ALWAYS FORENSICS FROM THE ART STUDIO, SIR.



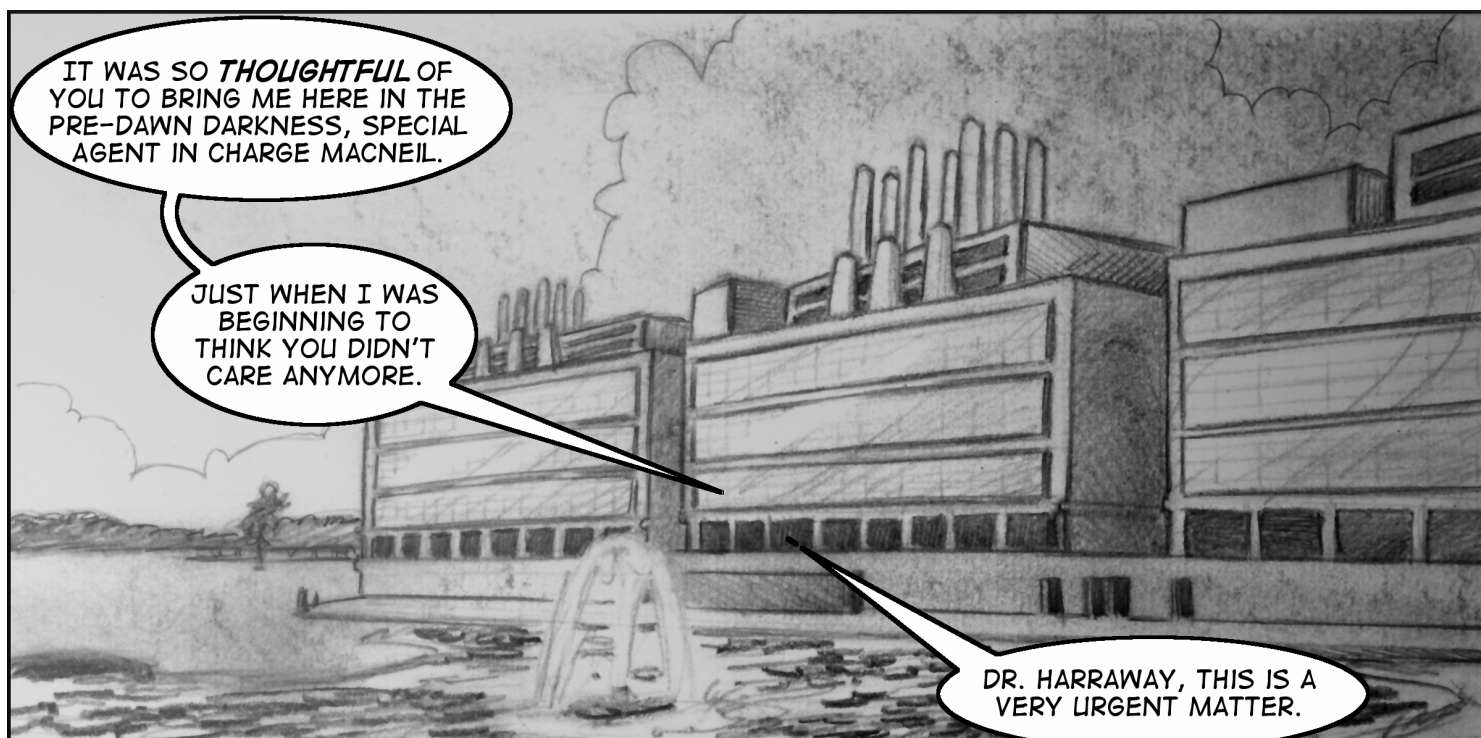
CALL HARRAWAY AND TELL HER SHE NEEDS TO GET IN **REALLY** EARLY.

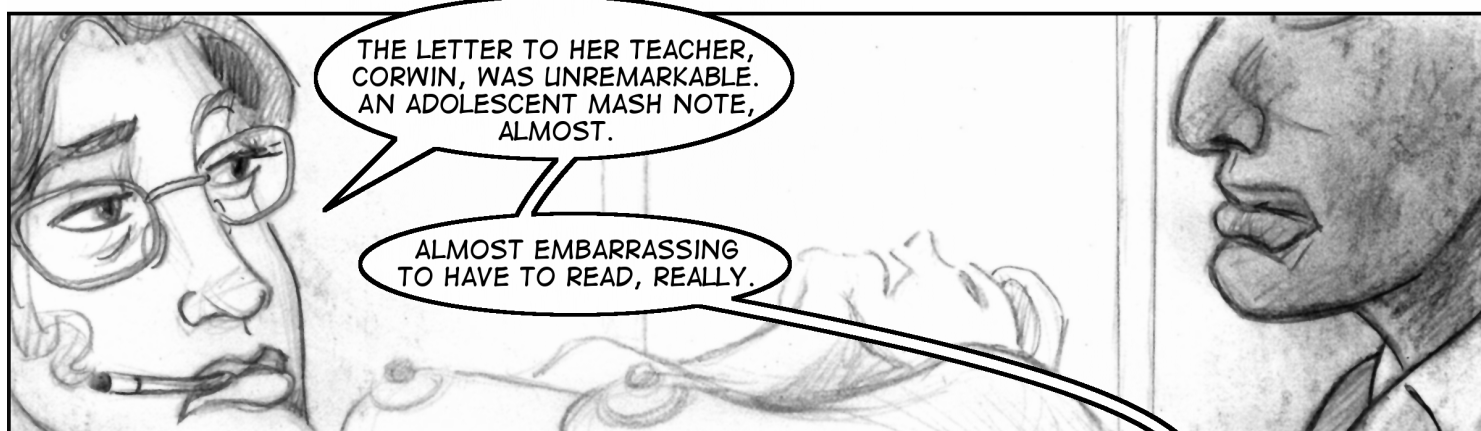
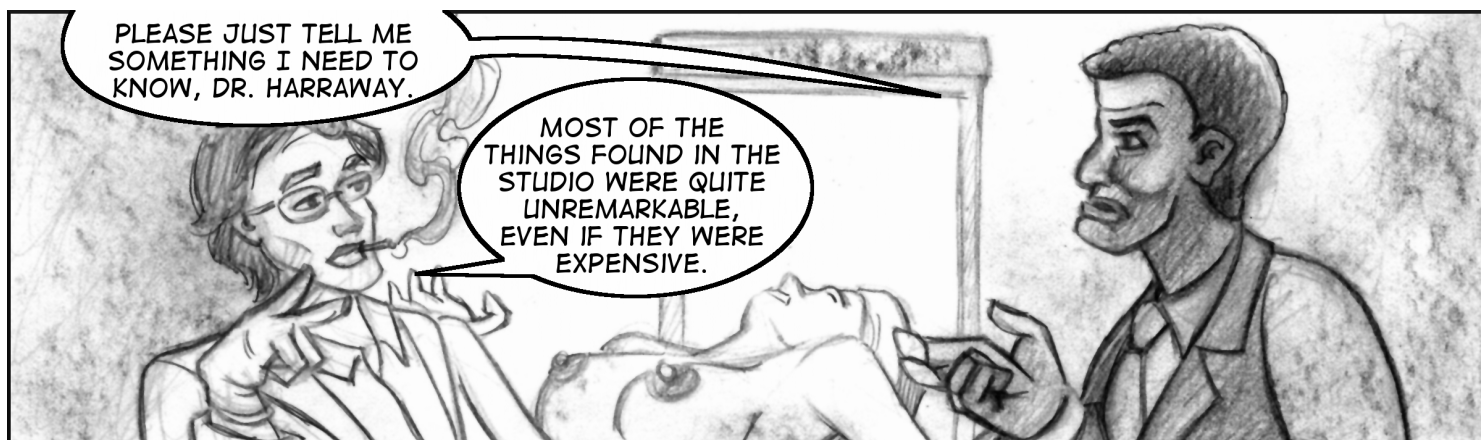
SHE'S...RELIABLE IN CASES LIKE THESE.

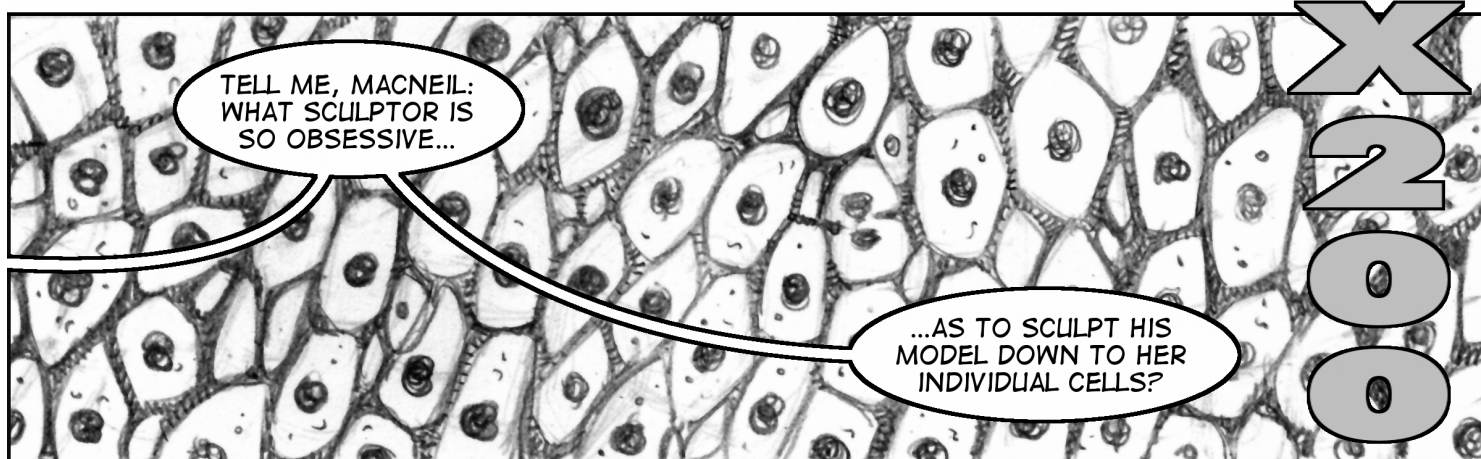
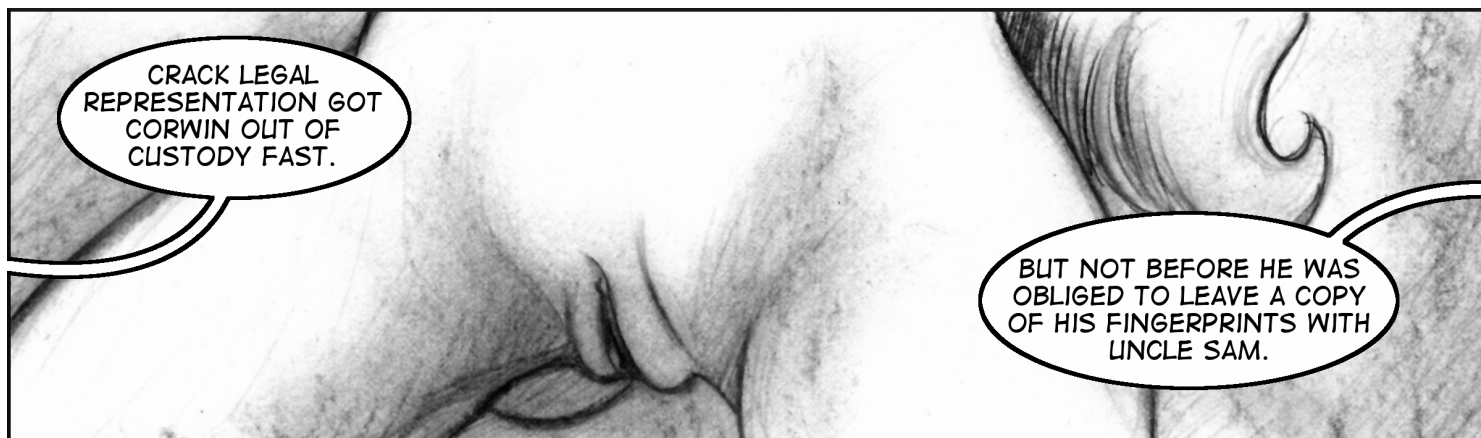


RIGHT NOW, YOU AND I CATCH A RED-EYE BACK TO DC.

AND I DON'T EVEN GET MY DAMN COFFEE.

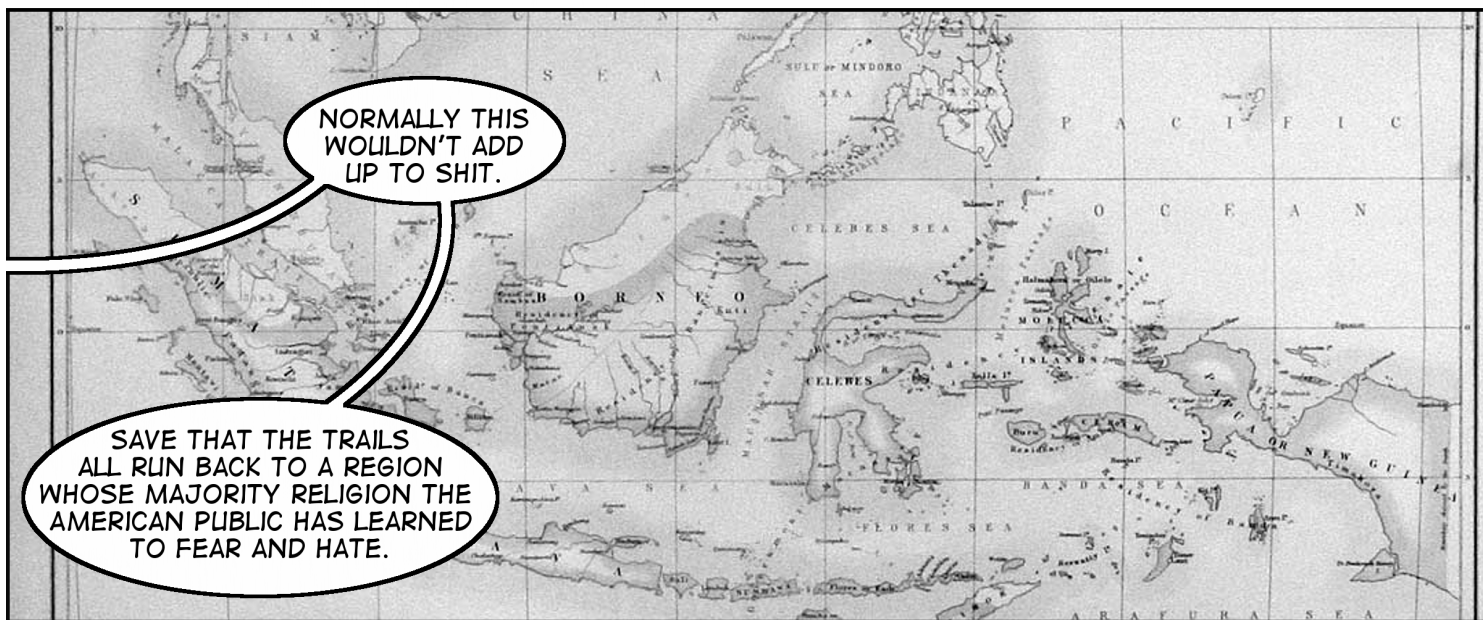










THE FILES ON HIM
SMELL REALLY BAD:
FOREIGN BANK
ACCOUNTS, MONEY
TRAILS AND
ASSOCIATES IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA,
AND THAT WEIRD
BIOHAZARD SHIT
CUSTOMS HAD TO
DEAL WITH.





...AND IN STILL MORE SHOCKING NEWS OUT OF GNOSIS COLLEGE TODAY, FEDERAL AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED THEY HAD TAKEN INTO CUSTODY PROFESSOR JOSEPH CORWIN AND HIS ASSISTANT ANDREA LEE LATE LAST NIGHT.



AUTHORITIES HAVE DECLINED TO SAY WHAT LED TO THE ARRESTS OR WHAT CHARGES MIGHT BE PENDING.

ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT THESE ARRESTS ARE PART OF AN ONGOING NATIONAL SECURITY INVESTIGATION. WE HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT AT THIS TIME.

WHILE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES REMAIN
TIGHT-LIPPED ABOUT THE MATTER,
SOME OF PROFESSOR CORWIN'S
LONGTIME CRITICS WERE OUTSPOKEN.

I CANNOT SAY I AM SORRY FOR AN
INTERVENTION THAT WILL STOP THE FLOW OF
POISONOUS NONSENSE INTO THE EARS OF
OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Dr. Leon Kesselbaum, Presidential Morality Advisor

...THE CONTEMPTIBLE VIEW THAT
THE BEST THING WE CAN DO WITH
OUR LIVES IS ENJOY THEM, AS
OPPOSED TO CULTIVATING VIRTUE
IN THEM. AND THE ARROGANCE
AND INSANITY OF ATTEMPTING TO
OVERCOME DEATH THROUGH
TECHNOLOGY, AS IF EACH
INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH WERE NOT A
BLESSING TO HIM WHETHER HE
REALIZES IT OR NOT.

MY OTHER
SHIRT
NEEDS WASH
TOO

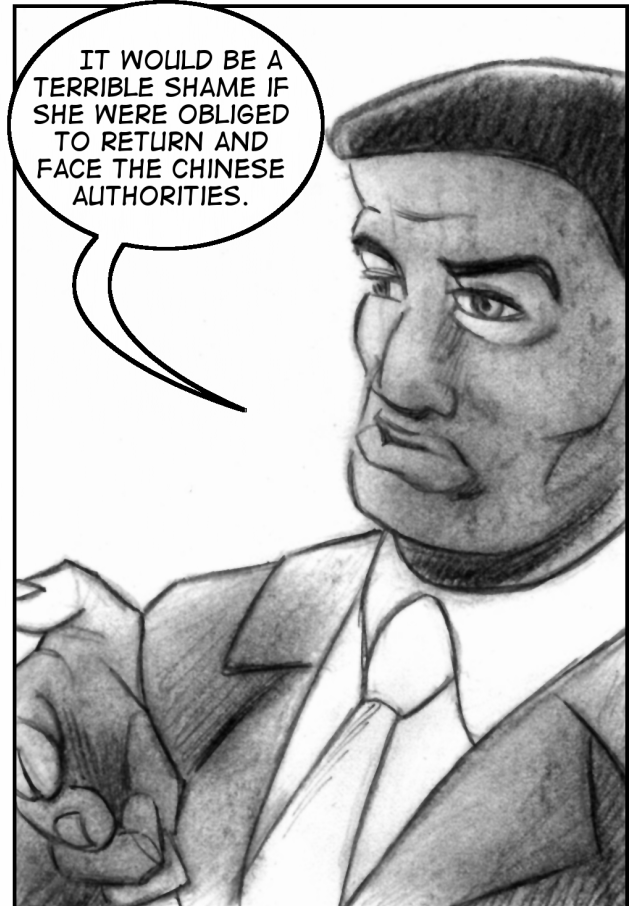
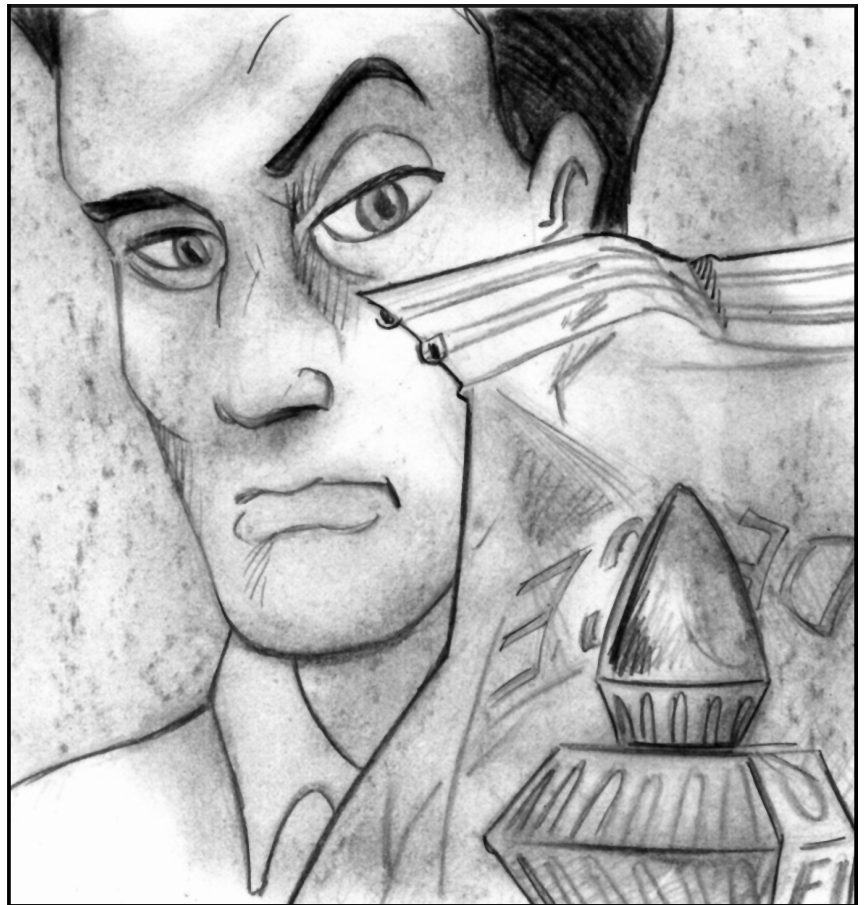


THAT'S SO
INTERESTING, DR.
KESSELBAUM.

AND NOW OVER TO
LENNIE WITH SPORTS!

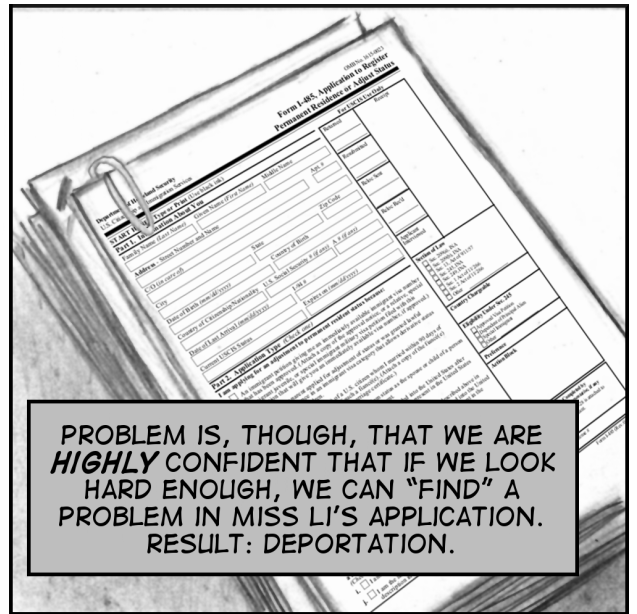








OF COURSE, YOU MUST BE THINKING TO YOURSELF THAT NONE OF THIS MATTERS, BECAUSE MISS LI THERE IS A U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT AND DOESN'T HAVE TO GO BACK ANYWHERE.



PROBLEM IS, THOUGH, THAT WE ARE **HIGHLY** CONFIDENT THAT IF WE LOOK HARD ENOUGH, WE CAN "FIND" A PROBLEM IN MISS LI'S APPLICATION. RESULT: DEPORTATION.




AND THE RESULT OF DEPORTATION IS BEST NOT THOUGHT ABOUT.




YOU...AND THE GOVERNMENT YOU WORK FOR...ARE MONSTERS.

ALL THIS OVER ONE MEDIOCRE STUDENT.



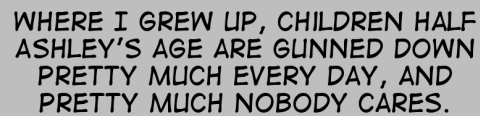
MONSTERS?
AND WHAT
DOES THAT
MAKE YOU?



PERHAPS ASHLEY MADDER
IS JUST A MEDIOCRE
STUDENT TO YOU, AND YOU
JUST DON'T CARE.



I KNOW ABOUT
"JUST DON'T CARE."



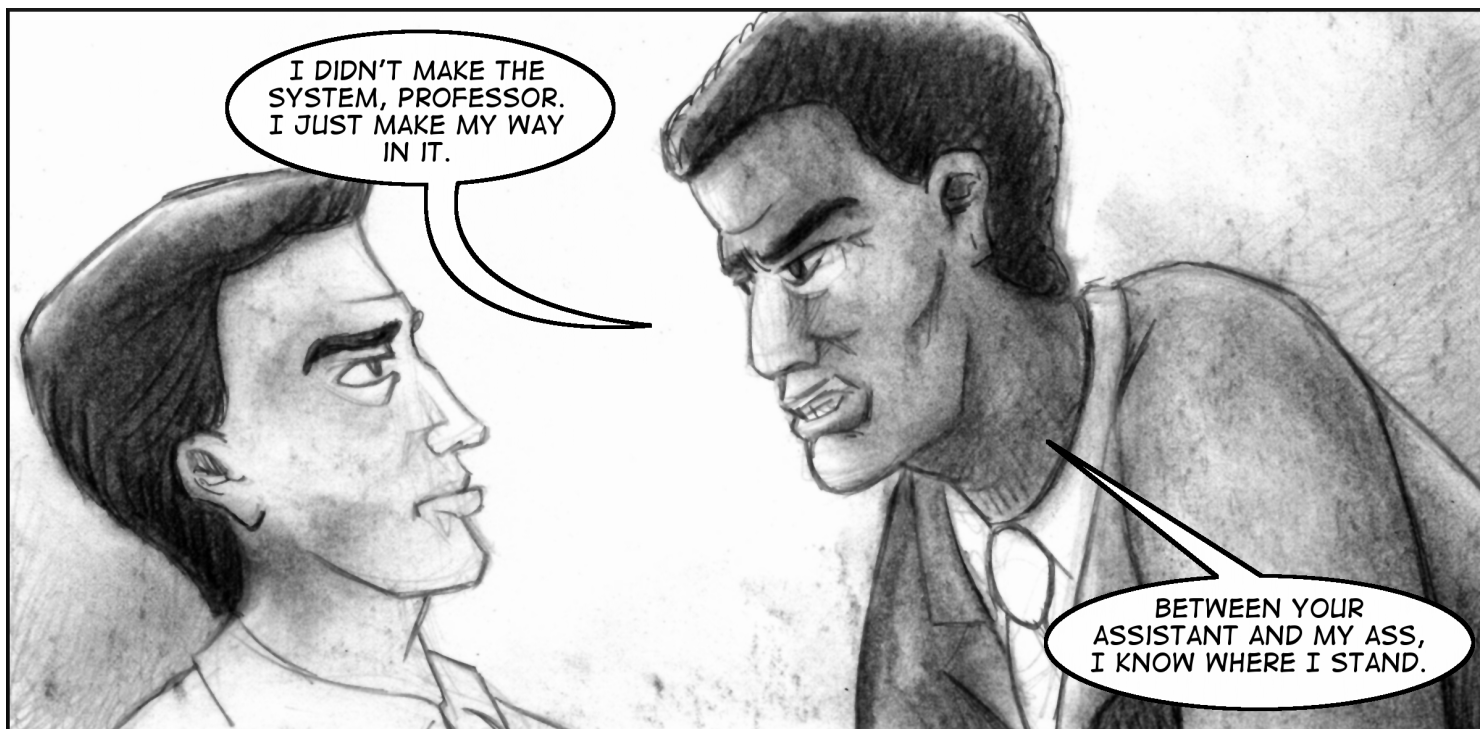
WHERE I GREW UP, CHILDREN HALF
ASHLEY'S AGE ARE GUNNED DOWN
PRETTY MUCH EVERY DAY, AND
PRETTY MUCH NOBODY CARES.

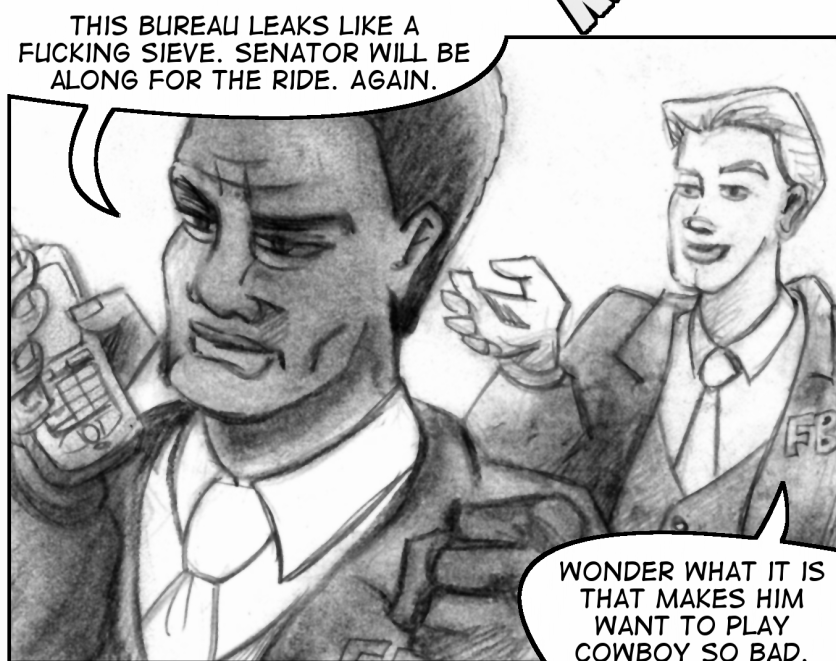
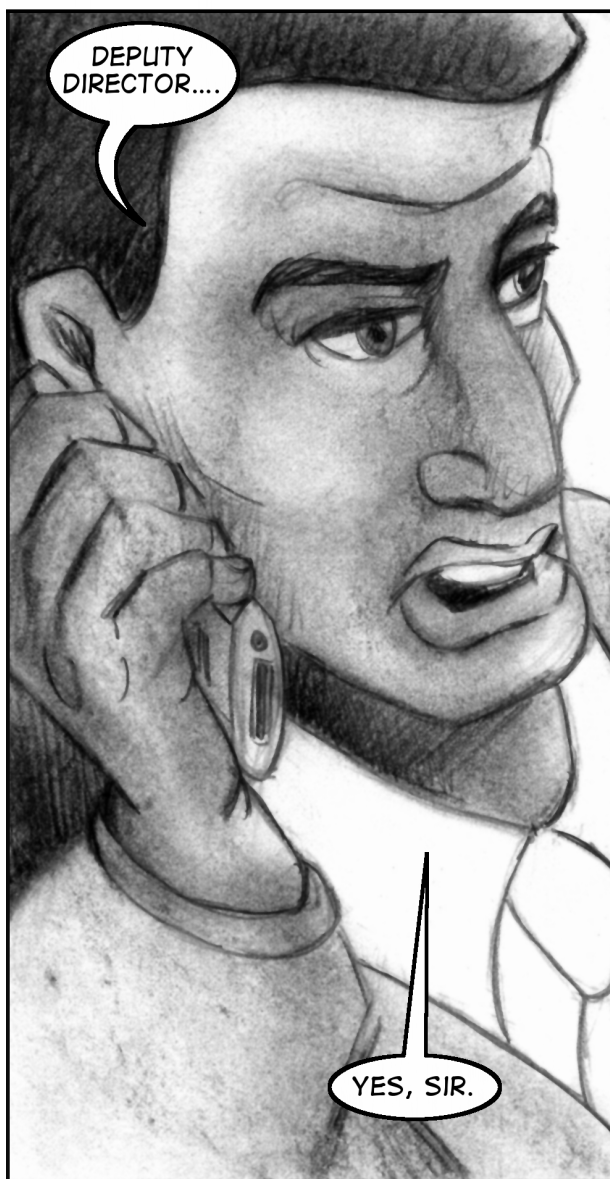


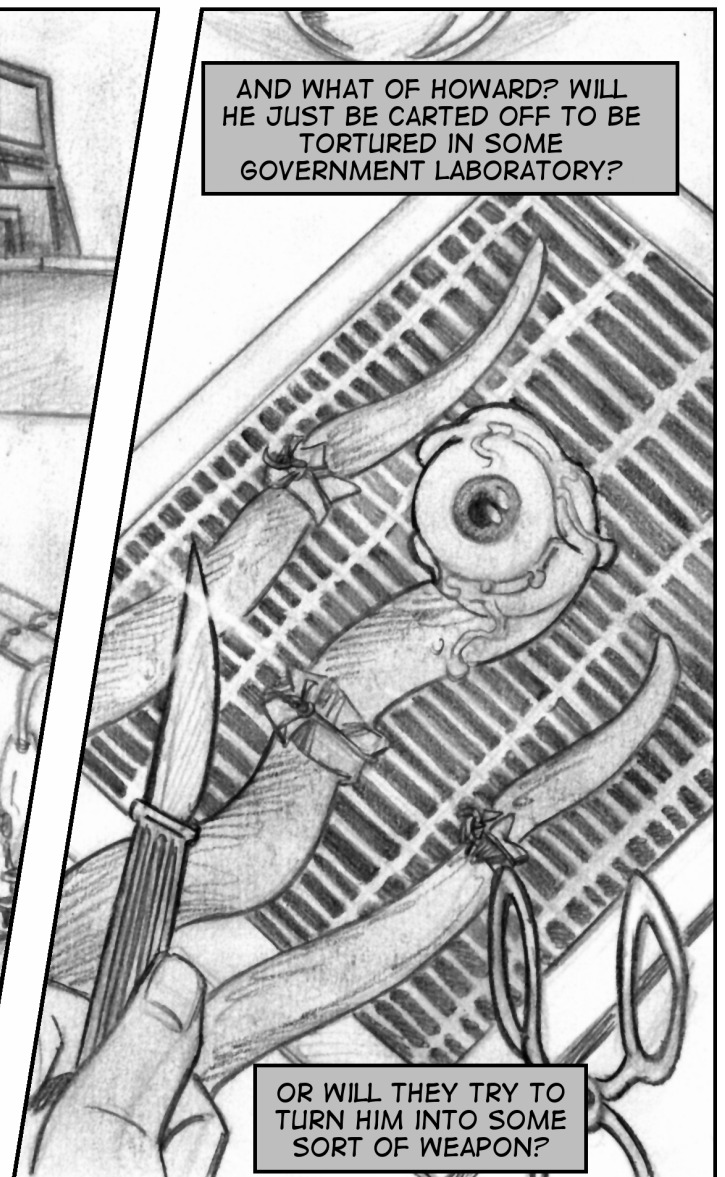
BUT PRETTY WHITE GIRL IN
TROUBLE? MEDIA GONNA CARE.
GONNA EAT IT UP DAY AFTER DAY.




AND SENATOR DADDY?
HE GONNA CARE.










HOWARD'S SPECIES IS MORE
ANCIENT AND POWERFUL
THAN EVEN PROFESSOR
CORWIN REALIZES. I KNOW
THIS FROM MY CONTACT
WITH THEM.

I'M NOT SURE HOW
THEY WOULD REACT TO
MISTREATMENT OF ONE
OF THEIR OWN, BUT WAR
SEEMS POSSIBLE.

LOSS OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS
BETWEEN OUR SPECIES
WOULD BE TRAGEDY ENOUGH.



IF ONLY THERE WERE SOME
WAY TO PLEAD OUR CASE.
EXPLAIN THAT THE MORALISTIC
THUGGERY THAT'S ABOUT TO
GO DOWN IS **NOT** REALLY
WHAT HUMANITY IS ALL ABOUT.

BUT TACTILE
COMMUNICATION WITH
HOWARD IS VERY SLOW FOR
SUCH COMPLEX IDEAS.

AND I SUSPECT
WE HAVE VERY
LITTLE TIME.

MOIRA, I HAVE
AN IDEA.

A CRAZY, DANGEROUS,
DESPERATE IDEA, BUT
STILL AN IDEA.

WE MUST
IMPROVISE ON THE
APSINTHION
PROTOCOL...



AND SO NANETTA AND MOIRA HEAD TOWARD A MAD-SCIENCE RENDEZVOUS WITH DESTINY IN THE THRILLING FINAL CHAPTER OF "THE APSINTHION PROTOCOL," COMING UP NEXT. YET HOW LITTLE DO THEY APPRECIATE THAT THEIR ENCOUNTER WITH THE STRANGE IS AN OLD GNOSIS COLLEGE TRADITION. DO YOU REMEMBER THE PAINTING OVER THE BAR ON PAGE EIGHT OF THIS CHAPTER, UNDER WHICH G-MAN MACNEIL DROWNED HIS SORROWS? DID YOU THINK THAT WAS JUST A BIT OF THROWAWAY DETAIL? JUST AN ORDINARY PAINTING? WELL THEN, MY FRIEND, YOU ARE IN FOR A SURPRISE, BECAUSE MAD SCIENCE STORIES LURK EVERYWHERE IN THE GNOSIS COLLEGE WORLD. PREPARE YOURSELF FOR...



The Strange Case of

MILLIE NEWMAN

"The Girl Over The Bar"

A WOMEN OF GNOSIS COLLEGE BONUS STORY!

A WINTER'S DAY AT GNOSIS
COLLEGE, 1888

TO THE SHOCKING TALE OF
THEODORA'S APPEARING NEARLY
NUDE ON STAGE PROCOPIUS
ADDED "αναπεπτοκυια τε εν τω
εδαφει υπτια εκειτο. φητες δε
τινες...κριθας αυτη υπερθεν των
αιδοιων ερριπτον ας δε οι χηνες, οι
ες τουτο παρεσχευασμενοι
εντυγχανον τοις στομασιν ενθενδε
κατα μιαν ανελομενοι εισθιον."

THE MOST
ELEMENTARY
DECENCY
PROHIBITS A
TRANSLATION
INTO ENGLISH.

I THINK IT WOULD HAVE
BEEN VERY JOLLY TO
HAVE BEEN EMPRESS
THEODORA.

OR MAYBE ONE
OF THE GEES.

**MISS
NEWMAN!**

YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY MEAN WHAT YOU
SAID BACK THERE, MILLIE. NAKED, IN
FRONT OF AN AUDIENCE?

OH, TIRED OLD
MORALITY. THEY SAY
RIGHT NOW IN
GERMANY FREDERICK
NIETZSCHE IS GETTING
RID OF ALL THAT.

I INTEND TO *POSE*
FOR PROFESSOR
HOFFMANN, ROSE.

MILLIE!
SURELY YOU
CAN'T!

WHY NOT? I'M SURE HE HAS
A STOVE IN THE ROOM.



THE EIDOLONIC ELECTRIC
DIMENSIONAL SUBTRACTOR
EMBODIES THE LATEST
MATHEMATICAL THEORIES OF
RIEMANN AND ABBOTT. BY
HELPING ME TO TEST IT YOU WILL
BE MAKING A PERMANENT
CONTRIBUTION TO ART AND
SCIENCE BOTH.

IF YOU WOULD
BE SO GOOD AS
TO DISROBE AND
POSE ON THAT
COLUCH.

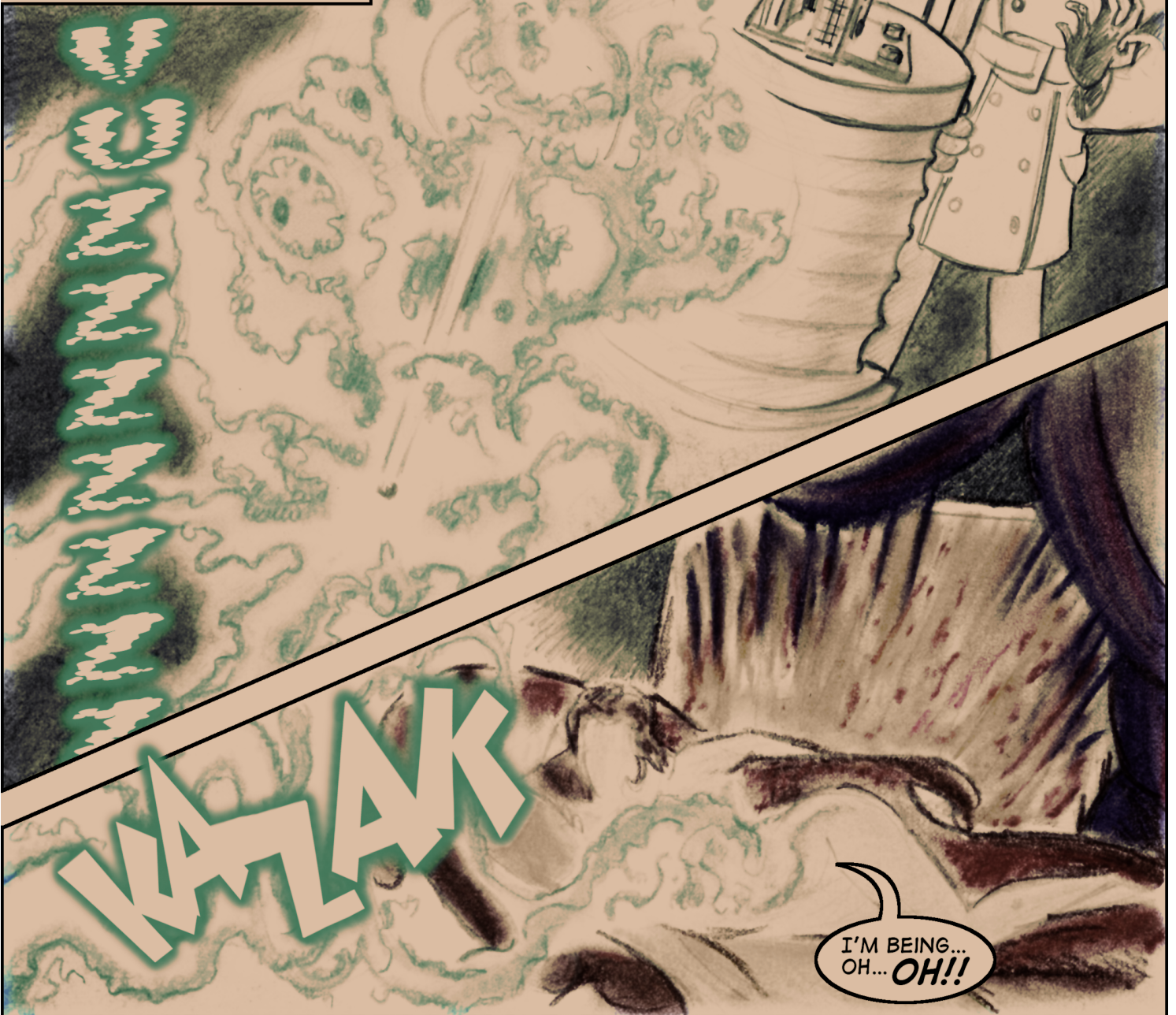
IS IT
SOMETHING
LIKE MR.
EASTMAN'S
NEW
INVENTION?



SOMETHING
LIKE THAT, YES.



HOLD STILL,
PLEASE!

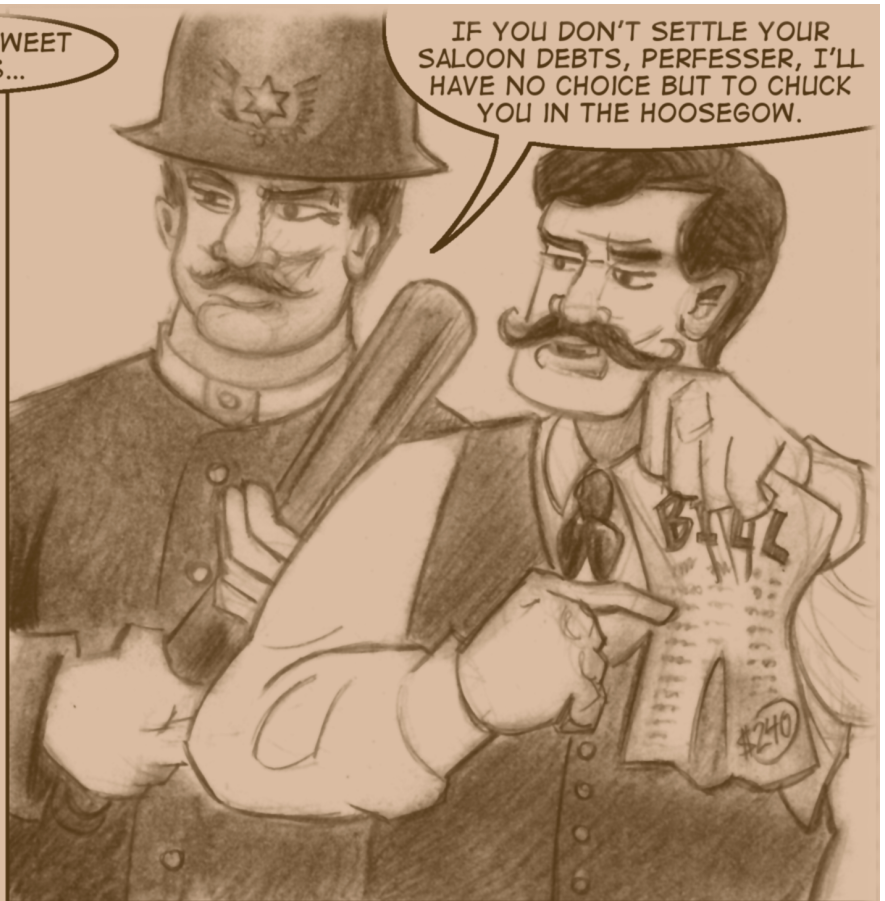




SUCCESS...SWEET
SUCCESS...

knock!
knock!

OPEN UP
HOFFMANN!
IT'S THE
POLICE!

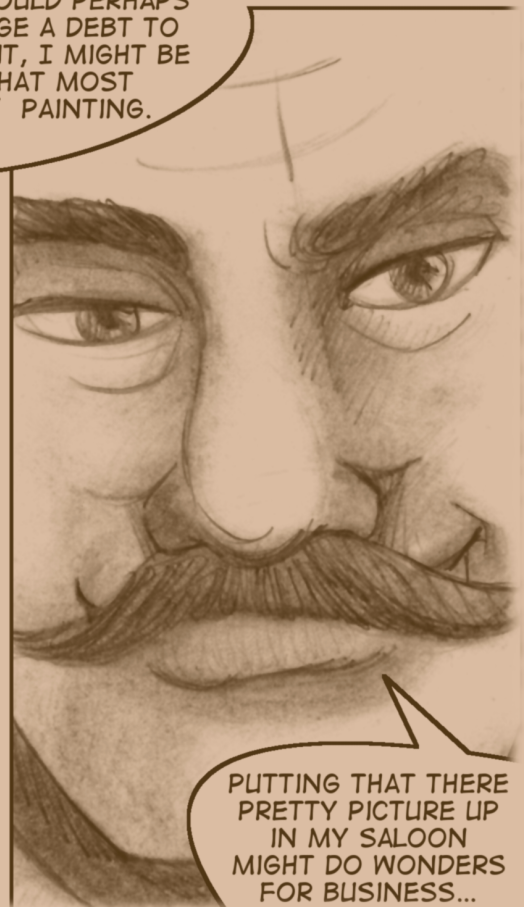


IF YOU DON'T SETTLE YOUR
SALOON DEBTS, PERFESSER, I'LL
HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CHUCK
YOU IN THE HOOSEGOW.



I'M AFRAID I'M A
LITTLE SHORT
OF **CASH** RIGHT
NOW, OFFICER.

BUT IF MR. O'SHEA WOULD PERHAPS
BE WILLING TO CHANGE A DEBT TO
A...REASONABLE CREDIT, I MIGHT BE
ABLE TO OFFER THAT MOST
EXTRAORDINARY PAINTING.



PUTTING THAT THERE
PRETTY PICTURE UP
IN MY SALOON
MIGHT DO WONDERS
FOR BUSINESS...



PUT THE PICTURE IN
YOUR SALOON IF YOU
LIKE, O'SHEA, BUT IF YOU
DO, BE SURE TO KEEP
CHILDREN AND **HONEST**
WOMEN OUT.

PROFESSOR HOFFMANN WAS
ABLE TO CUT A GENEROUS DEAL
INDEED WITH MR. O'SHEA.

SADLY, HOFFMANN'S PREMATURE
DEATH FROM CIRRHOSIS OF THE
LIVER CUT SHORT ANY FURTHER
WORK ON THE EIDOLONIC ELECTRIC
DIMENSIONAL SUBTRACTOR. IT
WAS A TERRIBLE LOSS TO SCIENCE.

BUT TO THIS DAY, A REMARKABLY VIVID
AND LIFELIKE PORTRAIT OF BEAUTIFUL
A YOUNG WOMAN LOOKS DOWN AT
PATRONS OF O'SHEA'S SALOON.